

THE CELESTIALS

THE BOY WHO SOLD HIS SHADOW



Story & Art Direction by
Arion Wareham

A Celestials One-Shot

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A market appeared
where no market
should have been.



Nothing
here is free.



Especially
the things
without price
tags.



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Then they
found the child
hiding from it all.



Hey.
We're not here
to hurt you.



NOTHING
IS FREE



Dream...
look at the
ground.



A man at
the market said
he could take my
fear away.



He took my
shadow
instead.



In a place where
everything had a price,
the boy had already paid.

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Then the market went dark.

WHAT'S YOUR PRICE?

BARGAINS, MADE IN WHISPERS

SOULS FOR SALE

Dream—
behind
him!

CONTRACTS
& CURSES

TREASURES OF
QUESTIONABLE VALUE

Contracts
That Bind.

A shadow
fed by fear
eventually becomes
strong enough to
replace its owner.

W-what
is that?!

PAIN
HAS A PRICE

It came
back for what
was traded.

NAMES
MEMORIES
SOULS

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Fear finally
showed its face.

Micah—
behind us!

Move!

It passed
right through!

NOTHING
IS FREE

Then we
pin it down.

No...

BARGAINS
MADE IN
WHISPERS

It's
multiplying.

Those are
my fears...

Then we fight
everything it
sends.

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The market answered
fear with more fear.

It keeps
splitting!

Then we
end the source.

One clean
strike.

Wait!

Dream—
stop!

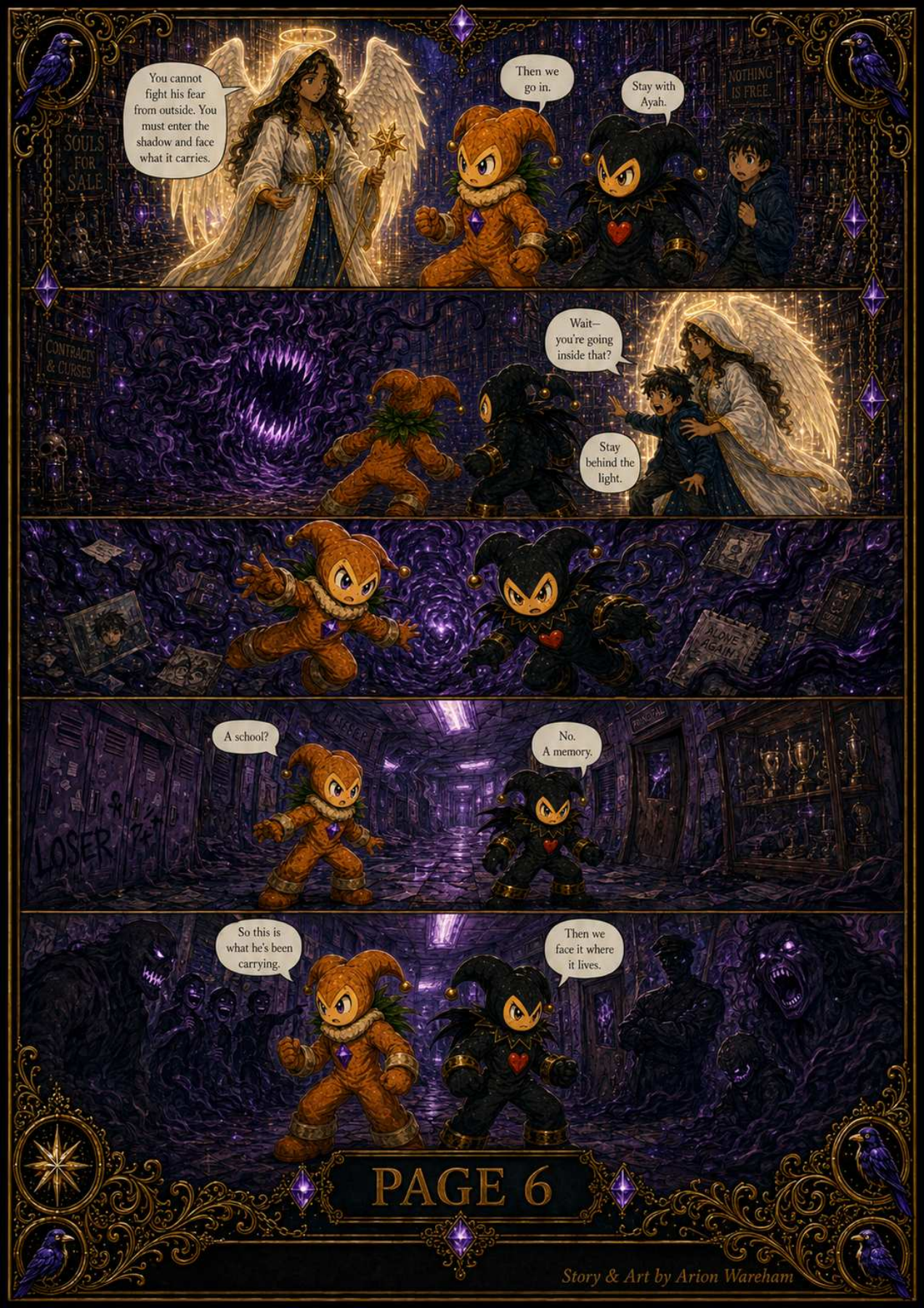
You cannot destroy
what belongs to
his heart.

His fear was
separated, starved,
and poisoned.

Destroy it,
and you destroy
part of him.

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You cannot fight his fear from outside. You must enter the shadow and face what it carries.

Then we go in.

Stay with Ayah.

Wait—you're going inside that?

Stay behind the light.

A school?

No. A memory.

So this is what he's been carrying.

Then we face it where it lives.

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7: MICAH'S CHOICE

ONE
LAST BARGAIN,
LITTLE OWNER.

ABANDON YOUR
SHADOW FOREVER...
AND YOU WILL **NEVER**
FEEL FEAR AGAIN.

IT'S THE ONLY
WAY TO BE
FREE.

MY FEAR
BELONGS
TO **ME**.

YOU
DON'T.

I CHOOSE
MYSELF.

THE SHADOW
SLOWLY SHAKES...

...AND
REMEMBERS.

THE MONSTER
HIDES ITS TEETH...

THE NIGHT RETURNS
TO A CHILD.

BRAVE ISN'T
BEING AFRAID.

BRAVE IS
CHOSING WHO
YOU BECOME
ANYWAY.

AND YOU'RE
NOT **ALONE** IN
THAT CHOICE
ANYMORE.

NO! YOU CAN'T
HAVE HIM!
HE'S MINE!

UMBRAEL'S
FORM CRACKS...
THE BARGAIN
IS **BROKEN**.

UMBRAEL STRIKES BACK...

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THE CELESTIALS

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Then I will
take every
shadow here!

No more
bargains.

No more
stolen fear.

Together!

TWIN ASTRAL:
**TRUTHBREAK
PULSE!**

A bargain...
never truly
ends...



The market
vanished with
the night that
fed it.



My
shadow...
it came
back.



I'm
still scared
to go
back.



Good.
Now you
know what
you're
facing.

And you
won't face
it alone.



When fear was
no longer his
master, courage
could finally
walk beside him.



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Some
bargains survive
the merchant.



They
escaped.

But this is
not the last of
our game.



This is only
the beginning.

The Celestials'
journey has just
stepped into
the dark.



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